

FRANKLIN FINE ARTS COUNCIL

The Franklin Fine Arts Council (FFAC) has worked diligently for nearly three decades to improve the quality of life in Franklin through arts programs, education and events. The FFAC does this with the support of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, City of Franklin, Samuel Justus Charitable Trust, FICDA, as well as a great deal of support from the public and private sector. FFAC Board members are: Cheryl Brickner, president; John McConnell, vice president; Connie Pratt, secretary; Ronnie Beith, treasurer. Other members include: Roland Davis, Mary Dickson, Judith Leasure, Nancy Lindsey, Penny Minnick and Sally Ricalton. The general membership consists of 200 members. The City of Franklin supplies office space and staff support to the FFAC.

The FFAC works closely with the City staff, Franklin Retail Association, Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Barrow-Civic Theatre to showcase Franklin's beautiful downtown through festivals, concerts, shows and arts education. The key to the success of the many events in Franklin is this cooperation.

EVENTS

Thursday Evening Concerts in the Park

Each Thursday, during the summer months, the public is entertained with concerts at Bandstand Park, which begin at 7:30 PM and last for approximately one hour. Many memories have been made at these concerts over the years. Franklin's very own Silver Cornet Band is the feature band of these beautiful summer evenings in the park.

Friday Night Blues, Jazz & Pop Series at Oskie's Patio, 5:30-8:30 PM, June through August.

Brown Baggin' at Fountain Park Gazebo, Thursdays, Noon-1:00 PM.

FESTIVALS

The Arts Council's major work is with the many festivals which it sponsors or cosponsors. Franklin has been dubbed "a small town with great festivals."

Franklin On Ice (held in February) - Designed to get rid of those winter "blahs". Onlookers watch as professional ice carving teams turn lifeless blocks of ice into beautiful works of art. Sample and vote for your favorite chili at the Downtown Chili Competition, find a great bargain at the big Indoor Sidewalk sale in the Barrow-Civic Theatre lobby and kids can enjoy magic shows.

4th of July Festivities Week - This week-long celebration features concerts each night, a great Penny Carnival for children, a Pet Show, and a Community Picnic. The biggest day of this celebration falls on the Saturday prior to the 4th, Libertyfest, and features a Dance Extravaganza, the Libertyfest Parade, food booths at Bandstand Park, and the Vogues at the Bandstand. The week is capped off by a fantastic fireworks display at Riverfront Park on July 4th.

A Taste of Franklin (1st Sunday in August) - Sample Franklin's finest cuisine. Fountain Park plays host to area restaurants, delis, and caterers. The sumptuous aromas in the park are complemented by live music, antiques, and children's activities. Motorcyclists are invited to the annual Motorcycle Cruise-In. This is co-sponsored with the Franklin Retail Association.

Rock In River Festival (4th Saturday in August) - This Festival was adopted by the FFAC in 2005. This River Festival features the ***PA Stone Skipping Championship*** (featuring the National Champion) and is held at Riverfront Park overlooking the confluence of French Creek and the Allegheny River. Kids can enjoy gerplunking, games and activities.....great for the entire family.

Franklin Light-Up Night (Saturday before Thanksgiving) – The holiday season is kicked-off with Franklin's most ***beautiful*** night. The goal of this special event is to fill the hearts of everyone present with the Spirit of the Season. Other features include the Christmas Tree Extravaganza, the Gingerbread House Show, our first visit from Santa, the lighting of downtown, the Electric Lights Parade and the Fireworks Extravaganza presented by Cartwright Fireworks in Fountain Park.

CONTACT US:

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